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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

17 January 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable William P. Clark  
Assistant to the President for  
National Security Affairs

SUBJECT: Soviet Satellites in the Central America Insurgencies

1. I understand that you inquired this morning about a compilation of information on the involvement of Soviet satellites in the Central America insurgencies. I gave you a first draft of this a couple of weeks ago. Here is an edited version which I still find inadequate both in detail and in presentation as you will see in my memorandum of 10 January (attached).

2. The revision has been held up because the best man I have to do it was sick in bed last week and I have only today gotten him started on a redraft to meet the requirements of my memorandum of 10 January.

3. I assure you it will be the best picture yet developed of what has happened there over the last few years when it is finished, which I hope would be before the end of this week. To be sure I had the whole picture I had it done in unsanitized version so further time will be required to sanitize it. When I see you on Wednesday, I would like to talk to you about how you see this being used.

William J. Casey



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10 January 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence  
National Intelligence Officer for Latin America

FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Request from Judge Clark re Central America

1. The compendium of evidence on Central America which Judge Clark requested doesn't quite meet the mark. It needs more detail, more specificity and, above all, more relevant sequence. Its organization by countries (i.e., Nicaragua, El Salvador, on to Guatemala, and so on) deprives it of the force with which it all actually happened.

2. It should start off with how the Cubans took over Nicaragua. Then it should go on to the new Nicaraguan government quick support of insurgency in El Salvador. Then Castro and Burnham's declaration of intent in 1980 at first anniversary of Sandinista government, to add to revolutionary Nicaragua, revolutionary El Salvador, revolutionary Guatemala, and revolutionary Honduras. It should then tell about the Cubans calling the El Salvador factions to Havana to get themselves united in return for a promise of support. Then it should go on to the 1980 meeting in which the propaganda program was laid out in Havana and I believe later in Mexico City, all of which doesn't emerge in this draft. Then it should bring in arms commitments for Vietnam, North Korea, etc. It should turn to the extension to Guatemala, the factions there were again being called to Havana to get united. Then the same process in Honduras. Along the way should be interspersed the specific reports which have come in on Bulgarian, East German, North Korean, Libyan, PLO support steps. Then return to Costa Rica. At the right point, insert the report from [redacted] on Castro's 25X1 admissions of support and the use of negotiations by time. Along the way in the appropriate points in time should be the tightening up of Nicaraguan society, the appearance of East Germans, Cubans and other forces, evidence of extending runways, training of pilots, appearance of tanks, etc. In short, what is wanted is a specific and chronological account of how a regionwide incursion developed. Don't overlook the magnitude of the financial support to the region provided by the Soviets and its allies which, including economic and arms support to Nicaragua and Central American insurgents, probably exceeds \$4 billion



William J. Casey

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